

STEVE M. CHASE

1 Jefferson Parkway, #52 • Lake Oswego • OR 97035

2 July 1999

7814 '99 JUL 12 A10:23

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: **Docket No. 98N-1038**, Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to inform you of my support for the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding labeling of irradiated foods:

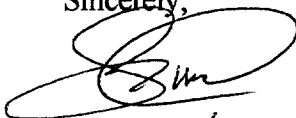
"any foods, or any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation, should be labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the international symbol. If the food is unpackaged, this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale."

I believe that the terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" should be retained. Like other labels, irradiation labels are required by FDA to be truthful and not misleading. Any phrase involving the word "pasteurization" is misleading because pasteurization is an entirely different process of rapid heating and cooling.

I recognize the radura as information regarding a material fact of food processing, and believe that it should remain a requirement on all irradiated foods. The requirement for irradiation disclosure (both label and radura) should not expire at any time in the future. The material fact of processing remains. Even if some consumers become familiar with the radura, new consumers (e.g., young people, immigrants) will not be. The symbol should be clearly understandable at the point of purchase for every one. **If there is no label, consumers will be misled into believing the food has not been irradiated.**

Please place the comments received, certainly those received via e-mail, on the Internet so that the public can be informed about who is participating in this comment process.

Sincerely,



Steve Chase

98N 1038

C3341

Chase
1 Jefferson Pkwy #52
Lake Oswego OR 97035



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: DOCKET No. 98N-1038

20857/0001

